GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4014
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2002
STORAGE OF RAIN WATER FOR IRRIGATION
HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY;LAXMAN GILUWA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have launched any scheme under which the rain water could be stored for irrigation and other purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) No such new scheme has been launched for storage of rain water for irrigation and other purposes. However, a live storage capacity of 75 BCM will be created oncompletion of a number of dams under various stages of construction. Government of India is providing central loan assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97t o help the State Governments in their efforts to harness rain water and accelerate creation of irrigation potential by speedy completion of certain selected ongoing schemes. Besides, a live storage capacity o f 1 3 2 BCM is likely to be createdo n completion of irrigation/multipurpose schemes under various stages of consideration.

Government of India is also promoting rain waterharvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificialrecharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programmeunder the Ministry o f Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies of Recharge to Ground Water" on pilot basis.

A s a long term measure, National Water DevelopmentAgency have formulated National Perspective Planfo r water resources development which envisages interlinking between various Peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of waterfrom surplus basins to water deficit basins which will accrue benefits of irrigation, drinking water supply and hydro-power etc.